

# Around the Services

Compiled by Paul Disney from service reports



## Air Force

The Civil Air Patrol celebrated 60 years of service with a wreath-laying ceremony at the CAP Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

The ceremony paid special tribute to the World War II coastal patrol members, nicknamed the "sub chasers," who used their own private planes armed with bombs and depth charges to hunt for German U-boats. The sub chasers are credited with sinking two subs. Today, CAP pilots fly 85 percent of inland search-and-rescue missions in the nation.



## Coast Guard

In the largest homeland-defense and port-security operation since World War II, the Coast Guard mobilized more than 2,000 Reservists immediately after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. In January alone, the Coast Guard conducted 30,000 port-security patrols and 3,000 air patrols, boarded 1,792 high-interest vessels, and escorted 5,112 vessels in and out of ports. The Coast Guard protects the 95,000 miles of America's coastline, including the Great Lakes and inland waterways.

## Department of Defense

Construction workers continue laboring around the clock at the Pentagon, pouring concrete and placing rebar to create the new walls of the D ring. The plastic molds being used replicate the 1941 wooden plank framework used in the original construction project. Engineers expect the repairs to be completed by Sept. 11.



## Navy

A recently identified sailor killed in the December 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was reburied in March at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. Seaman Apprentice Thomas Hembree was serving aboard the seaplane tender USS *Curtiss* when it was struck by a Japanese bomb, killing 21 sailors aboard. All but two of the dead crewmen — Hembree and Seaman First Class Wilson A. Rice — were accounted for following the attack. The U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii identified Hembree's remains.

